1. Models and Modeling

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Testing e verifica del software

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Why modeling

- From wind-tunnels to Navier-Stokes equations to circuit diagrams to finite-element models of buildings, engineers in all fields of engineering construct and analyze models.
- Several advantages:
 - analysis and test can be performed before the actual artifact is constructed,
 - Models permit us to start analysis earlier and repeat it as a design evolves, and allows us to apply analytic methods that cover a much larger class of scenarios than we can explicitly test.
 - Importantly, many of these analyses may be automated.

Overview

Model characteristics

Compact A model must be representable and manipulable in a reasonably compact form. Models intended for human inspection and reasoning must be small enough to be comprehensible. Models intended solely for automated analysis may be far too large and complex for human comprehension, but must still be sufficiently small or regular for computer processing.

Predictive A model used in analysis or design must represent some salient characteristics of the modeled artifact well enough to distinguish between "good" and "bad" outcomes of analysis, with respect to those characteristics

Multiple models Typically, no single model represents all characteristics well enough to be useful for all kinds of analysis. One does not, for example, use the same model to predict airflow over an aircraft fuselage and to design internal layout for efficient passenger = >

Model characteristics

Semantically meaningful Beyond distinguishing between predictions of success and failure, it is usually necessary to interpret analysis results in a way that permits diagnosis of the causes of failure. If a finite-element model of a building predicts collapse in a category five hurricane, we want to know enough about that collapse to suggest revisions to the design. Likewise, if a model of an accounting system predicts a failure when used concurrently by several clients, we need a description of that failure sufficient to suggest possible revisions.

Sufficiently general Models intended for analysis of some important characteristic (e.g., withstanding earthquakes or concurrent operation by many clients) must be general enough for practical use in the intended domain of application.

How to model your system

How to model your system

- Focus primarily on the SUT
- Show only those classes (or subsystems) associated with the SUT and whose values will be needed in the test data
- Include only those operations that you wish to test
- Include only the data fields that are useful for modeling the behavior of the operations that will be tested
- Replace a complex data field, or a class, by a simple enumeration. This allows you to limit the test data to several carefully chosen example values (one for each value of the enumeration).

Declarative vs operational notations

Finite State Machines

Logic

Temporal logic

NuSMV

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formal verification

model checking